Order of precedence. Bank Schooner

Flunkey or Catcher — Usually a boy. Catches the dory painters when men are arriving or leaving, cuts out tongues & sounds, etc, salts them in bbls or ½ bbls & sells them for what he can get. Do not paid by the trip.

Throater :- Cuts throat across & rips belly open.

Header :- Removes liver & drops it thru hole in splitting table to basket below. Removes rest of guts & head

Header & Throaters are sometimes called "the gibbers" — slang. (Gib = gills)

Flunkey, Throater ($25 a month) Header ($30.00) and Cook ($15.00) are on straight pay.

Sells tongues for 3 to 4 cents a pound. No pay

BANK SCHOONERS

The schooner owners fit out vessel with food, trawls, salt (150 hhds average) dory, anchors etc

For their share they get half the fish & divide amongst shareholders 64/64

The crew get half — this is called fishing "on a lay of half the stand" — ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ and out of the crew's half ~~Captain~~ is paid the cost of bait, ice, cook's wages, header & threaters wages, fuel oil, etc.

Captain get a percentage (varying according to times, 3% in 1938) on value of gross stock — crew's & owners fish together. In addition he gets a single share in the crew's net return. On an average vessel (power schooners) carrying ten dories, this means a crew of 20 dorymen, 1 salter, and captain = 22 men sharing equally the crew's half of net returns.

On a power boat, engineer does the salting*

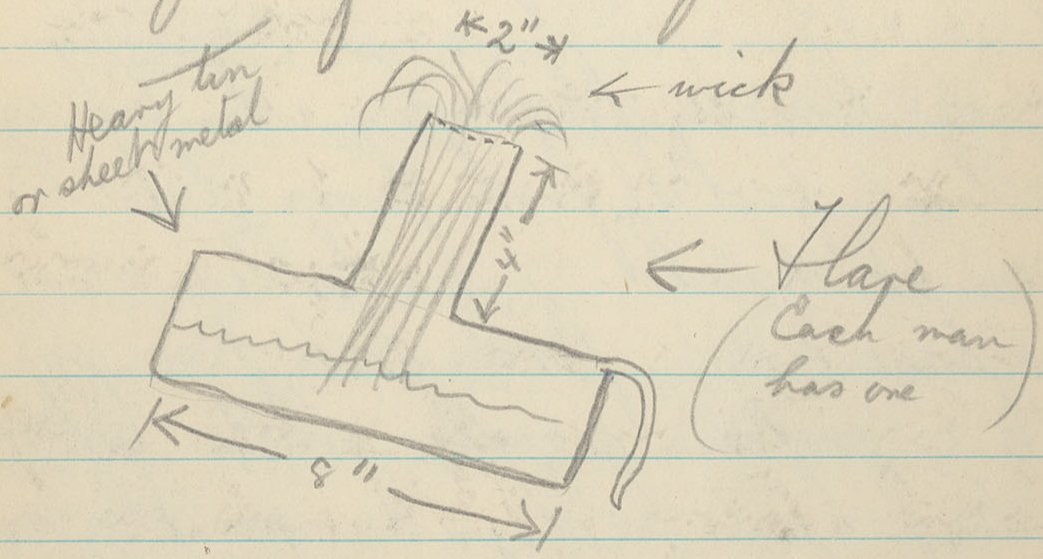
Nowadays the captain rarely does the splitting. An extra hand is carried for that purpose.

The splitter takes out back bones & drops fish into tub of sea water. Tub holds about 4 quintals of fish (1 quintal = 112 lbs dried fish = about 300 lbs of fresh split fish)

Header knocks off heading when tub is full, & forks fish from tub to pen at hatch. Salter comes up from hold, forks fish from pen into a portable wooden chute which slides fish into hold. He sprinkles salt on face of fish (light amount for "slack salting", plenty for "hard salting; this depends on how long they expect to be at sea)

The salted fish are then stowed by the salter, built up in tiers or layers called "Kenches" & laid so that the brine will drain into spaces between "Kenches" *

Crew turn out before daylight by electric light if available, if not by the light of kerosene flares.



Herring are sliced in three lengthwise strips & these in turn are chopped. Average 15 or 20 baits to a herring.

Trawls are then baited (if not previously set), then breakfast.

Then dories are dropped overboard. Two men always stick together as dory mates; one is "bow man" the other is "after-man" (AFTER-MAN IS BOSS OF THE DORY). Each dory takes 4 tubs of trawl - 6 lines to a tub.

The "afterman" gets in dory, brings it alongside trawls set on deck; the "bow-man" passes trawl tubs down to him. He then picks up from the cabin house his 2 moorings, 2 anchors, 2 buoys & passes them down.

They then row off to their allotted fishing stations. These stations have been drawn by lot - tickets marked "starb'd bow" "Starb'd beam" "Starb'd Quarter" "Main Boom" "Port Quarter" "Port Beam" "Port bow" have been picked out of a hat.

They will sail to stations if possible. (6)

Onside buoy is about 1000 feet from vessel, and trawls are set like spokes of a wheel with the vessel for a hub, each line of trawl about 1 mile.

Return to vessel & wait. Cut more bait. Go out to trawl, take off fish & re-bait hook. A trip out to the trawl taking in fish re-baiting, returning to vessel, takes about 3½ hours.

Fish are forked from dory to fore-deck & from there to the throating-kid *

Average 3 runs to trawls a day. At end of 3rd trip all hands turn to help split, head & throat, salt — often running 3 dressing tables. Captain says who is to split who to head who to throat etc & this men will do thes throughout the

voyage. Then the deck is washed down, dories hoisted in. Then comes the 4th meal of the day. (There is a meal before each trip to the trawls)

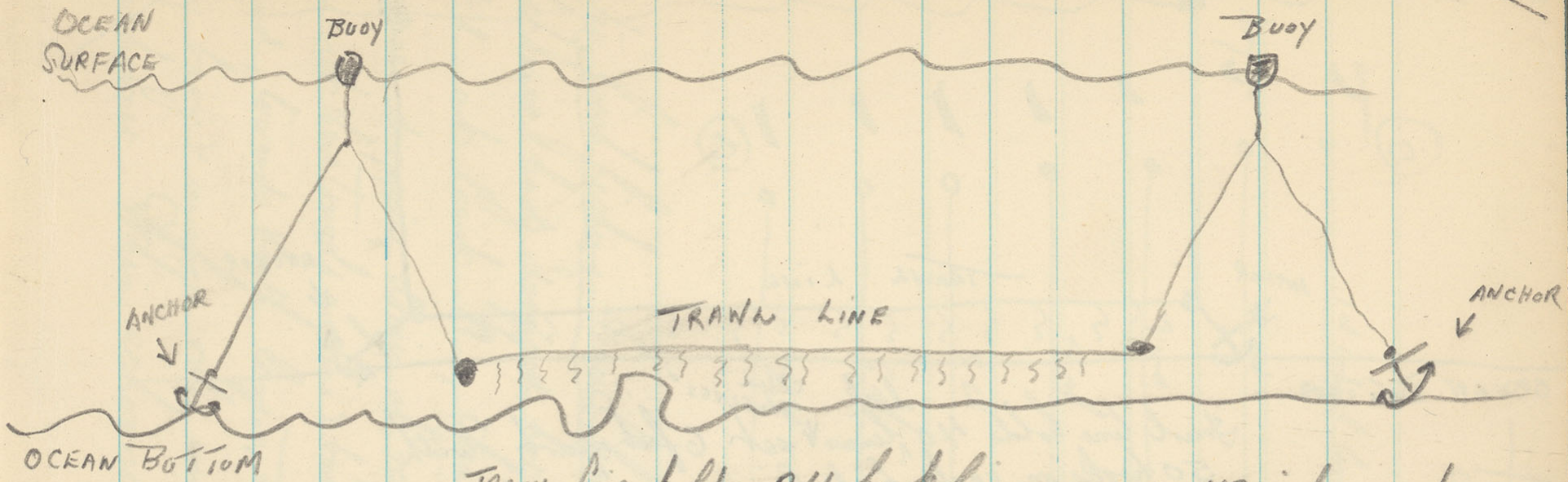
The forecastle table seats about a dozen men, so there are 2 settings for an average crew.

Then the watch is set. It lasts from 9 P.M. to 4 A.M. (anchor watch) One man on deck at a time for one hour *

Superstitions

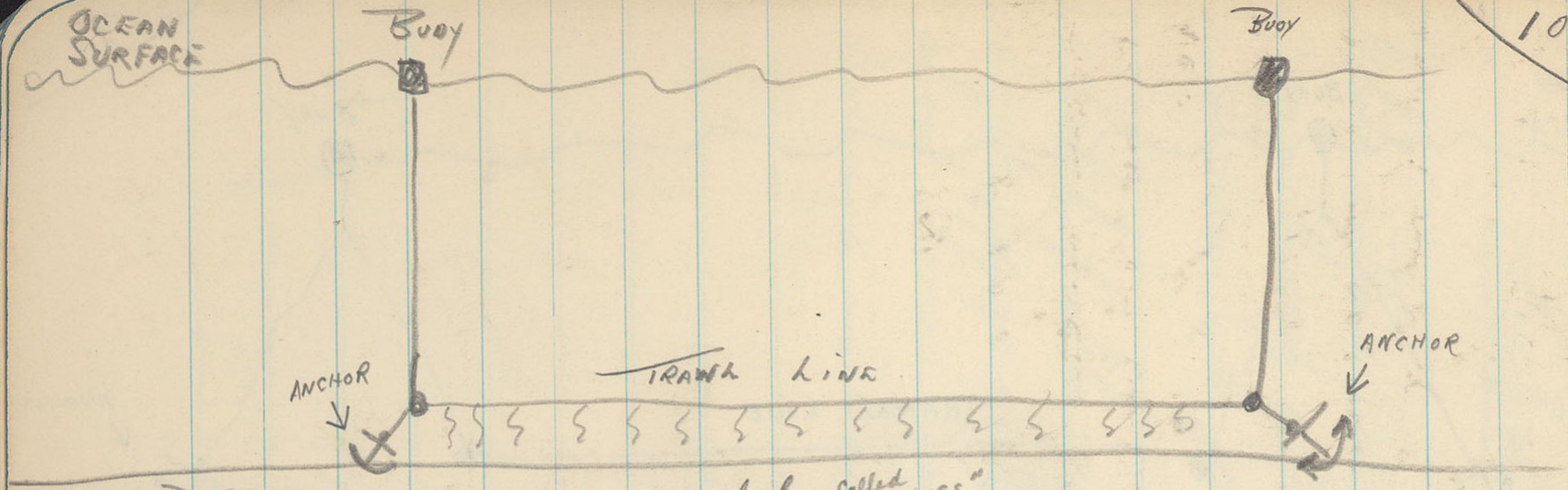
White mittens. Other colours taboo. A man with red mittens would be called a Simon (= Jonah)

A hatch falling in the hold; talking about Piggs is bad luck. Talk about horses is a sign of wind. Driving a nail on Sunday, bad luck



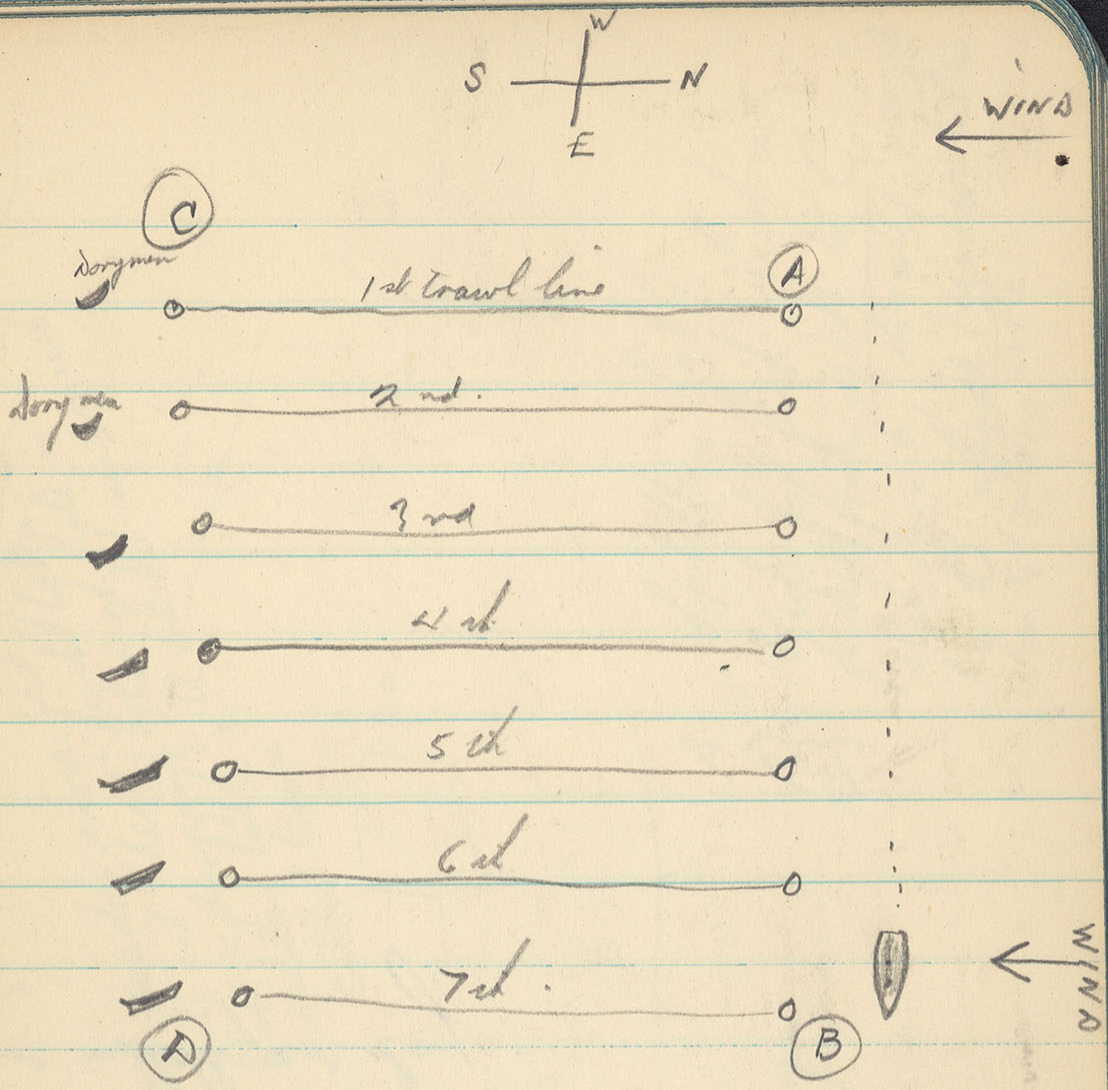
TRAWL line holds 24 hook lines spaced 42 inches apart, Each hook line holding 80 hooks.

Above shows set of trawl for salt (summer) fishing. With this rig the trawl can be drawn to the boat and "underbanked" (fish taken off & hooks re-baited) without disturbing anchors.



Trawl line holds 40 hook lines called "GANGINGS" set 6 feet apart, with 50 hooks on each hook-line.

Above shows set of trawl for fresh fishing (winter). With this rig the anchor is hauled up and gear taken in every time the trawl is relieved of its catch. This is because sudden winter storms render it inadvisable to leave gear set over-night or even for long periods during the day. Customarily in winter freshfishing ("freshing") one set is made in the morning, another in the afternoon. See Page 18 for vessel manoeuvres during a "set".

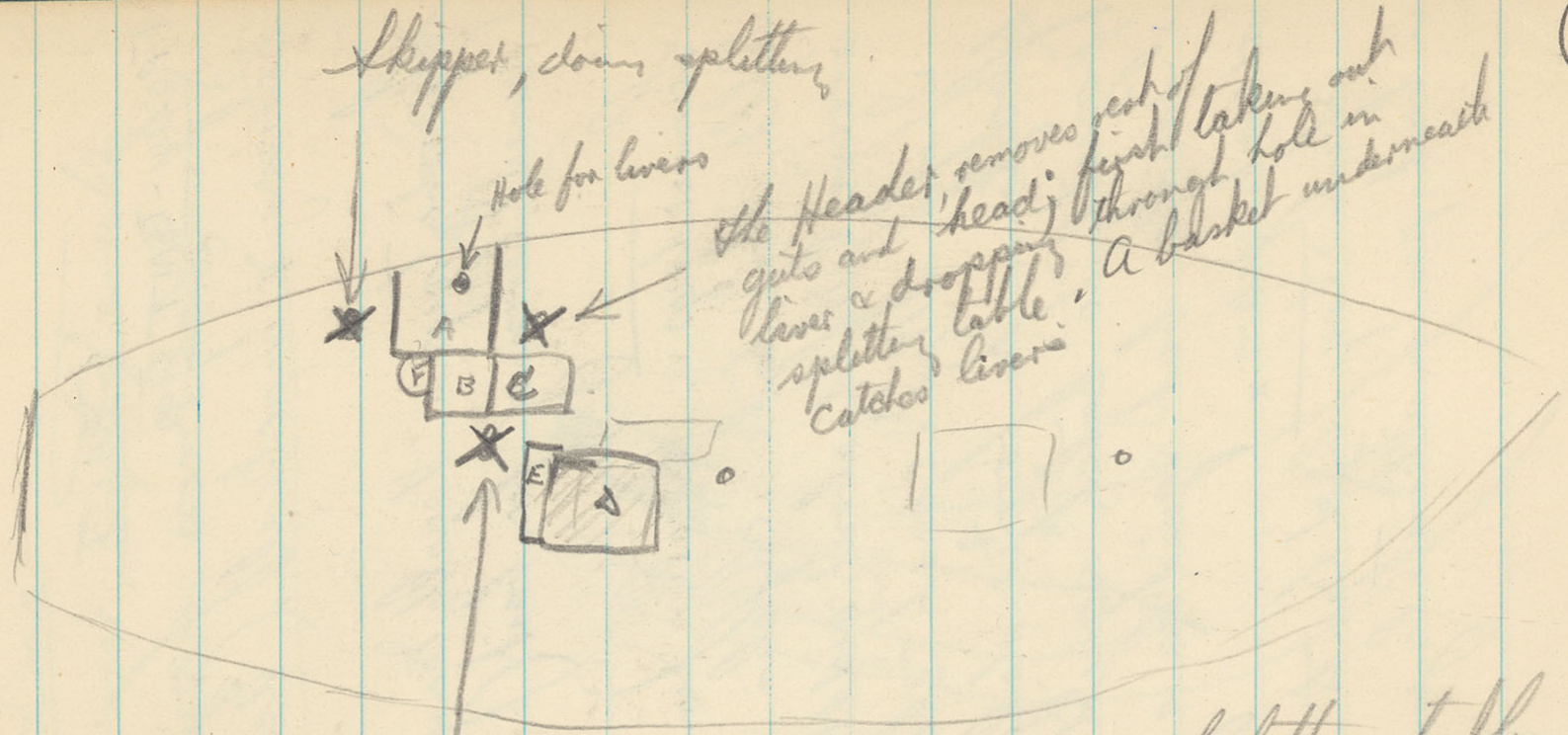


Winter fresh fishery. Trawl lines.

Schooner had dropped her dories beginning with No 1 at Point A., thence on an easterly course dropping dories at regular intervals. Dory men set their trawls anchors & buoys & then sail with wind, towards South, laying trawls. At south end they buoy & anchor outer end & wait for schooner. When schooner reaches Point B and

drops last dory, the No 1 dory has probably reached point C & is ready to be picked up again. Schooner thus steers from B to C, picks up No 1 dory & then sails East again, this time picking up the dories. From D, with all dories aboard, she sails to point A and begins dropping dories again, this time to haul up gear and fish. Thence from B to C and from C to D, until she has all dories, all gear & all fish aboard.

In ordinary winter weather 2 such sets are made per day.



D = main Hatch
E = Fish pen
F = Fish tub.

A. Splitting table

B } – Kids for fish. Fish are
C } forked from deck to C, slit open by throater, passed to B where Header takes them to splitting table.

BAIT

FROZEN-BAIT trips use frozen bait. — herring & mackerel. (Usually 1st March)

Spring trips. Usually May. Use fresh (seined) herring for bait.

Summer trips. Usually June. If going to Nfld they take capelin there. Capelin arrive Nfld about middle of June.

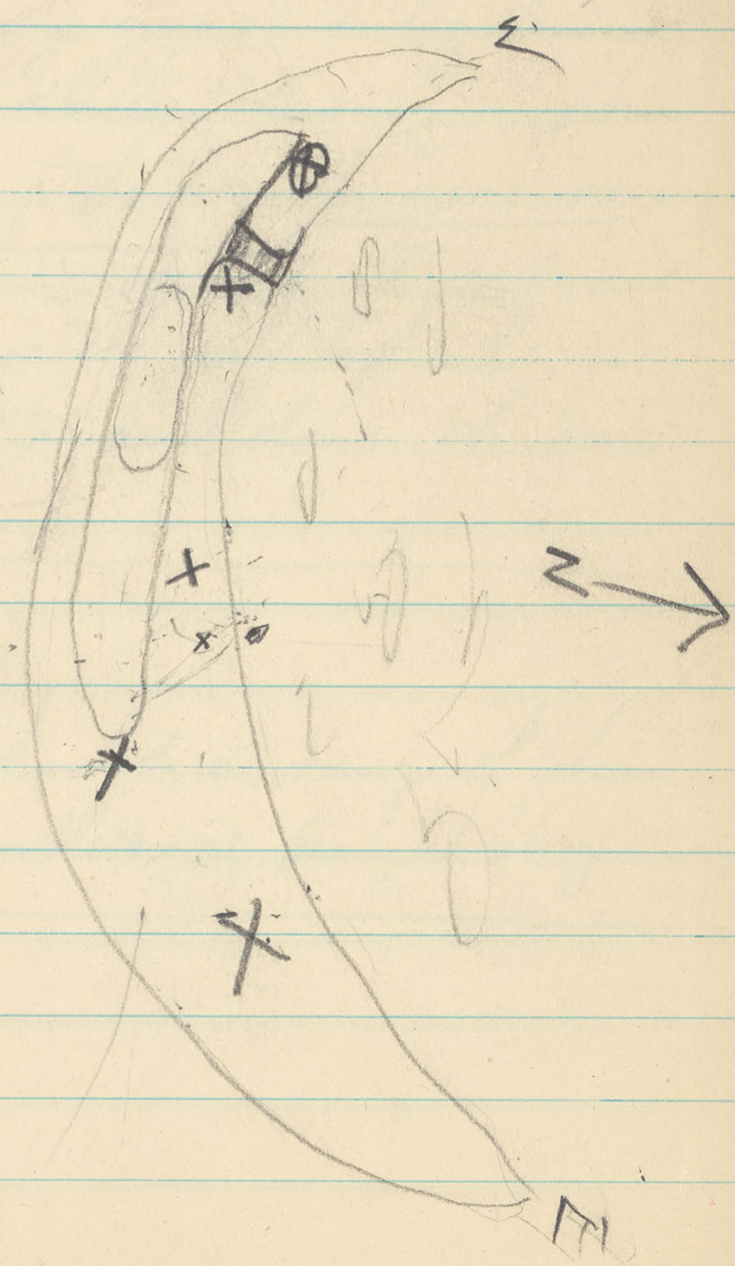
If off N.S. coast they take squid, frozen. In former days it was possible to catch squid right on the Banks but squid have got scarce in recent years.

Summer trips bait has to be iced. Stowed in bait-pen in alternate layers of ice and bait.

Lower Dress

Woollen underwear, couple of sweaters, pair of heavy trousers, wool socks.

Skiing dress



1940
62
1878

"Slack the lee topsail brace & check in on your weather brace"
(Your topsail yard is braced up too sharp)

Some of the rovings gone off the t'gallantsail.
Caused by sail slatting during night.
"Send a man up there with some rovings"

"Haul down the main topmast staysail, and
Better clew up the gaff topsail, clew up the royal, & haul down the outer jib.

~~Hats~~

~~Jibs~~

"Time you overhauled a range of chain & get your anchors over ready to let go.

"

Notes at Round Bay. July 26/42

Letters. 2 classes:- (a) ordinary civilian letter
(b) military letters.

Military letters:-
There is no salutation.
" " " complementary ending.
simply sign letter giving rank & appointment.

Subjects of letters are indicated in margin & underlined opposite paragraph dealing with each subject.

Our official abbreviation is
"Mobr N.S.R."

Liverpool, N.S. July 27/42

Mr. R. G. Irwin
Shelburne, N.S.

Dear Mr. Irwin,

On behalf of the officers of the South Shore companies of the 2nd (Res) Battalion, W.N.S.R., and of myself, I wish to thank you most heartily for your very kind offer of the bungalow at Round Bay last week-end. The site was most appropriate for a study of the Shelburne terrain and roads etc., and for other useful studies; and apart from all military use, the bungalow and its beautiful situation were a most happy choice for a week-end get-together.

Yours very sincerely
Thos. H. Raddall
Lt.-Col.
2nd (Res) Bn. W.N.S.R.

In action a battalion is composed of (1) R Group (Reconnaissance)
(2) O " (Orders)
(3) F " (Fighting)
(4) T " (Transport)

R group receives orders from Brigade
- Batt. Commander
- I.O. or Adj.
- Sig. Officer
- Stretcher & orderlies

Warning order comes from Brigade first (4)
Next comes preliminary reconnaissance
Next the Batt Comm. meets the O group, consisting of his company commanders & commanders of special groups attached to his unit.

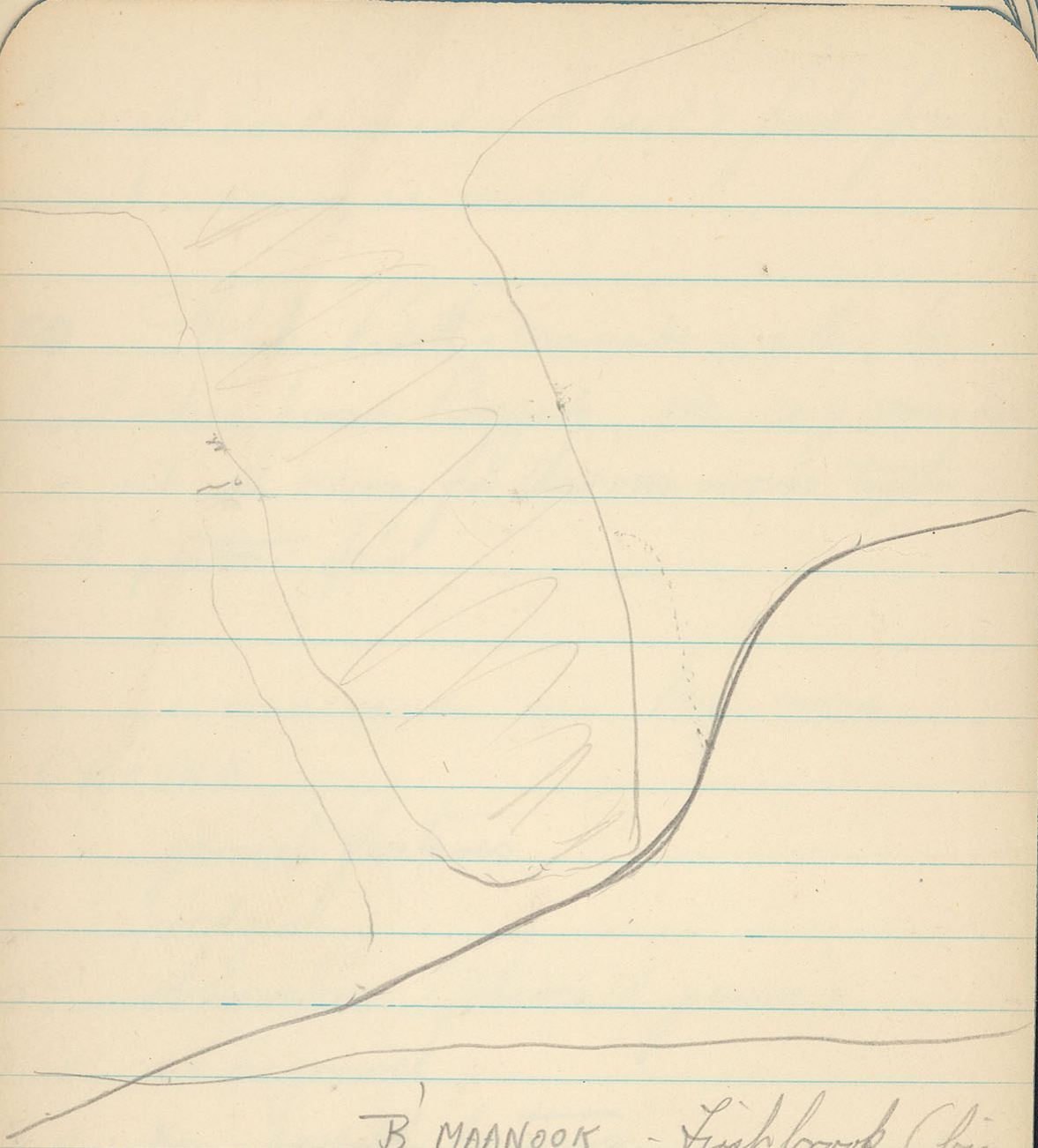
Batt Comd. should get his Batt. into action within 1 hour of receiving an order.

Hence all hands must work hard & fast from moment warning is issued.

~~Bn~~ While Batt. commander is getting his final orders from Brigade, the co'y commanders are out on recon. for their own moves, together with platoon c/c's.

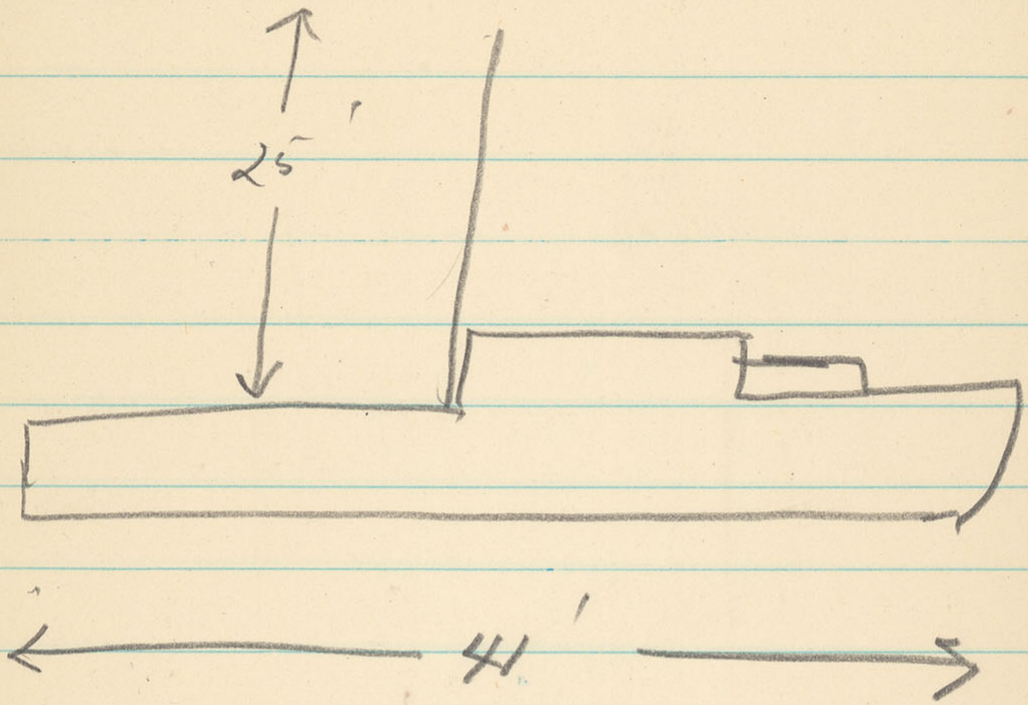
In reconnaissance use key word GROUNDS -

G - general features
R - ridges
O - observation (theirs & yours)
U - undergrowth
N - Non-passable features
D - defiles & cover.



B' MAANOOK - Trish brook (big brook) after you leave Port Joli Head. (Mitchell's Brook) famous Indian fishing brook.

Mollesons Brook, Port L'Hebert



Beam 6½'

Hood is 6 ft high.

Exhaust is 6' from wheel.

Sleeper masts

Always put a coin under the masts, drop one in the step-hole in the keelson.

Sheers are lashed & got on end, then the spar is got aboard & laid along the deck under the sheers. The standing rigging goes on while the spar lays on deck.

Bowsprit & bobstays are installed before anything. The mizzen mast goes up next, then the main, then the fore.

Then the spring stays are rigged & set up. Then the 2 jib stays.

Then you send up your topmasts — mizzen, main & fore, & set up the rest of the rigging.

Then the caulker comes along & puts in 1 more thread of oakum, using the ordinary caulking iron & mallet.

Then the whole hull is payed outside with tar & rosin. Then the fire engine is used to pump water into the skin of the ship ("the air streak") between inner & outer planking, while the caulkers go round & round outside, looking for leaks.

Deck & side planking are done together, or the deck first as a rule

Inside planking is done a little ahead of outside planking.

Auger holes bored from the outside clear thru outer and inner planks.

Borer stands side to the vessel, working both hands.

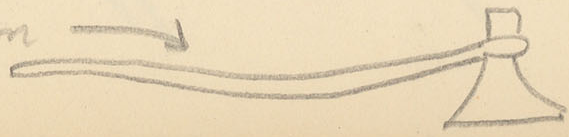
Treenails are keyed at both ends, finish sawn off flush.

Caulking

3 reaming irons are really iron wedges {used where seams are tight}

First 2 strands of oakum are driven by two men, one with horsing iron & the other with a beetle (which is a heavy type of caulking mallet)

Horsing iron →



Captain is also the engineer
Operator
Oiler
Fireman
3 deck hands
3 scow men
cook
watchman.

Dipper type dredge 5 yd capacity.
Can dig down 38 feet

Scow 95' long 45' beam.
9' deep.
Draws 8' with all gear in

Spuds 65' x 3' square Douglas fir
Stern spud 21" x 22" square x 65'.

Box type crane - 52' weighs 15 tons.
Dipper about 4 tons. Dipper handle 6 tons.

2" plough steel cable 125 feet long
Big wheel 12' diameter

15,000 gals fresh water a week.
20 tons coal a week.

Dipper and crane supported by an A-frame, which is braced by 3 wire steel cables fastened in bull-leads near the deck aft. Bull-leads weigh 300-400 lb each.

Stock in 2 pcs – 8'-10" x 12" x 6"
Shank 5' 10" from shackle to crown
Spread of 6' from fluke to fluke
Fluke – 15" long (not counting point 3 3/4") and
13 1/2" wide.
Shank is roughly 6" diam, 21" circumference

Wrought iron shank, crown & flukes all
in one piece. Stock looks like birch
Shackle is 12" across

3.1416

Enfield Rifle, a muzzle-loading rifle used in the British army before the breech-loading system. It was used in the American Civil War by both sides, though the Northern army used Springfields also. In England large numbers of these rifles were converted into breech loaders on the Snider principle & were known as Snider-Enfield or simply Snider.

At the close of the war the U S govt decided to convert large numbers of muzzle-loaders on hand into breech loaders & this was done on the principle invented by one Smoak of the Springfield armoury, these rifles being known as the model of 1865.

Enfield 1862.
Rifles for breech loading. "Snider Patent"

55" from muzzle to butt.
Calibre 5/8" Smooth bore.
Barrel 37"
Bayonet 20½" over all, 17½ blade.
Blade, three-edged, base of blade 5/8" x 5/8" x 3/4"

Cartridge was apparently 2" long, & was inserted in a slot at the breech. This slot was then closed by a hinged block (hinged at the right) through which travelled the pin.

Jacob Snider died 1866. Inventor of a method of converting Enfield muzzle-loaders into breech loaders. Orig. a wine merchant in Phila. Went to England in 1859 & sold his patents to British govt.